

## PHARMACY BOARD[657]

### Notice of Intended Action

**Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”**

**Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 8, “Universal Practice Standards,” Iowa Administrative Code.

This amendment was approved at the August 30, 2017, regular meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

The proposed amendment seeks to provide clarification for a pharmacist in dispensing remaining refills of prescriptions after the prescriber has ended a relationship with a patient, such as with discontinuation of practice or relocation to another state, so that the pharmacist is authorized to provide adequate and appropriate care to a patient while the patient is seeking the care of a new provider.

Any interested person may present written comments, data, views, and arguments on the proposed amendment not later than 4:30 p.m. on October 31, 2017. Such written materials may be sent to Terry Witkowski, Executive Officer, Iowa Board of Pharmacy, 400 S.W. Eighth Street, Suite E, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4688; or by e-mail to [terry.witkowski@iowa.gov](mailto:terry.witkowski@iowa.gov).

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of Board rules will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code section 155A.27.

The following amendment is proposed.

Amend rule 657—8.20(155A) as follows:

**657—8.20(155A) Valid prescriber/patient relationship.** Prescription drug orders and medication orders shall be valid as long as a prescriber/patient relationship exists. Once the prescriber/patient relationship is broken and the prescriber is no longer available to treat the patient or oversee the patient’s use of a prescription drug, ~~the order loses its validity and the pharmacist, on becoming aware of the situation, shall cancel the order and any remaining prescription refills. The pharmacist shall, however, exercise prudent judgment based upon individual circumstances to ensure that the patient is able to obtain a sufficient amount of the prescribed drug to continue treatment until the patient can reasonably obtain the service of another prescriber~~ may be dispensed at the discretion of the pharmacist for a suitable amount of time so that the patient can establish care with a new provider and a new order can be issued. In determining the duration of which prescriptions may be dispensed, the pharmacist shall consider the patient’s health care status and access to health care services.